

### REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3-12 and claims 14-15 and to make editorial revisions for U.S. practice to claims 1-15.

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

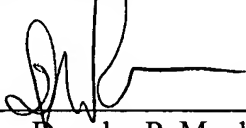
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 371-5237.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300



Dated: January 24, 2005

By  \_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. 30,300

DPM: mkc